THENSINGNEWS

ELMAR giving substance to their 2020 vision for a sustainable Aruba

Mr. Robert Henriquez Director - Elmar Aruba N.V. Renewable energy conference

A challenge that many companies face today is the aspect of sustainability. N.V. ELMAR has been working diligently on their vision for 2020, to create a sustainable Aruba. They were also present at the 'Green Aruba Conference IV, which recently took place at the Westin Resort.

Director of ELMAR, Ing. Robert Henriquez spoke about the 'Input on Smart Community,' and explained the participation of ELMAR with a red to the community. According to Henriquez, "we are very happy to be a partner in this initiative, which is very important for Aruba. We will learn from this, especially how this red will function on the intelligent system; to connect an electric car, analyze your electricity consumption and so get an idea of the amount of electricity your solar panel gives you back, and much more."

Eventually we want to reach the point where we can control certain home electronic equipment, in an intelligent manner and from a distance." This is how ELMAR sees the near future.

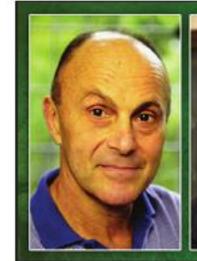
The signing of the agreement, in ELMAR's view is an official aspect which delineates how each partner's responsibility will be with the "smart grid" and how each will work together giving substance to this initiative.

We are happy to contribute and are always willing to do so. This helps us gain knowledge, and also gives an opportunity to give substance to our 2020 vision. We are working diligently with firm steps to move completely in the direction of sustainability, according to Henriquez.

ELMAR is putting forth the first steps of the smart grid. This will allow them to communicate with meters at home.

Continued on page 2

US trio win Nobel Economics Prize for asset price work







STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Three US academics got the Nobel Economic Prize yesterday for research on financial markets, an area of immense real-world implications following the crises rattling the global economy in recent years.

Robert Shiller, Eugene Fama and Lars Peter Hansen won the coveted award for groundbreaking work on spotting trends in markets, the jury said.

The three "have laid the foundation for the current understanding of asset prices. It relies in part on fluctuations in risk and risk attitudes, and in part on behavioural biases and market frictions," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said

Mexico issues warning ahead of Tropical Storm Octave

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - The Mexican government issued a tropical storm warning yesterday as Octave took aim at an already disaster-weary Mexico, while a second storm, Priscilla, strengthened far out to sea.

Tropical Storm Octave, with winds of up to 60 miles (96 kilometers) per hour, was to approach the west coast of Baja California today, US National Hurricane Center said.

It was forecast to weaken as it moved closer, and Baja California civil protection chief Carlos Miguel Enriquez said it would make landfall "not as a storm, nor depression, just as a remnant."

Still, the storm could dump three to six inches (7.6 to 15.2 centimeters) of rain over much of the southern Baja California peninsula, just three weeks after the country weathered the dual blast of storms Manuel and Ingrid









Is Aruba really in the forefront of the renewable energy movement? The short answer according to CREF Chairman Jerry Butler - "Yes!"

One of the principal policies of Aruba's government since 2009, with the election of Mike Eman and a majority in Parliament of his AVP party, has been the conversion of the island from using fossil fuel, and the attainment of a fully sustainable Aruba by the year 2020.

This ambitious vision has

directed legislation and investment, while the diplomacy and statesmanship of Prime Minister Eman has garnered the island some impressive partners in this vision. Not the least of these are the co-founders of the Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum, (CREF) which was conducted here over October 9-11, in conjunction with the 4th annual Green Aruba Energy Conference.

Co-founder and Chairman of CREF, Jerry Butler, impressed the audience greatly during the opening of the Green Aruba Conference on Wednesday morning. He is a dynamic, charismatic speaker and he praised the island for the bold steps it is taking in achieving its goal of 100% sustainability. He is a native Bahamian, and has been brokering sustainability projects throughout the region for some years, with an eye towards profitability, while preserving the environment. He founded CREF with Matthew Perks, and this was the fifth CREF event, attracting technology providers, investors and government officials from around the globe.

THE MORNING NEWS had the opportunity to sit with Mr. Butler, who can justifiably be considered an expert on the subject of the Caribbean and



sustainability. He sits on the board of the Latin American Council on Renewable Energy. His work takes him to all corners of the region, examining facilities and sustainability projects, talking to engineers, ministers, technology innovators and investors, as well as acting as a "mystery pollster" with the citizenry, to survey their actions and understanding of the sustainability issue.

Mr. Butler was highly forthcoming and candid, readily examining both sides of the
issue, where the Aruban administration deserves praise,
and some of the shortcomings
which need to be remedied for
the island to attain the goal.
The question was "Is Aruba really that far ahead, outdistancing other islands in the
region? Are other islands on
par or further advanced than
Aruba in incorporating sustainability policies?"

"The answer is," replied Mr. Butler, "Aruba has taken steps, both in terms of legislation and moving ahead from a practical perspective, in a demonstrative way, which the other islands wish to emulate, and have been talking about doing for some time. If you go back to my ini-

tial policy speeches about where the Caribbean should be headed, the first thing we talk about is the need for a coherent legislative strategy, and Aruba has it."

"So, the short answer is yes, Aruba is ahead of the curve. The more in-depth response is, like all Caribbean countries, we attend to things in delicate steps, because we have resource restrictions. The first restriction everyone thinks we have is finan-

cial, but usually it is intellectual capacity, and the will to move forward."

"We have always maintained that in order for an effective renewable policy to move forward, you need a statement and a will from the top, which is associated with some kind of climate change commitment. Aruba has done that. The person at the very top of your legislative initiative, Prime Minister Eman, going to a climate change conference like Rio, convinced us "We are going to get it done." His statement and his ambitions are bold and progressive, and I would say very, very ambitious, given the landscape for financing and technical resources."

"The second thing we talk about is at the practical and implementation level. How often is the actual community, the man on the street, involved in seeing the actual benefits in moving to renewable energy? You have initiatives such as, with transportation, you now have a green bus. Yesterday I took a ride on such transport for the first time on any Caribbean island."

Continued on page 5

ELMAR giving substance...

Continued from page 1





This is very advantageous for the consumer who will benefit from a much better service compared to a few years ago.

This smart grid makes it possible for ELMAR to give the client exact information in record time. The client can receive a complete profile of his daily, hourly usage, or for an entire year.

In this manner ELMAR is moving forward to the next level to convert Aruba into one of the leaders of sustainable energy in our region.





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and RBC/RBTT Caribbean Children's Cancer Fund. These funds will help with the expenses and necessities for the care of patients in Aruba and in the Dutch Caribbean and Sun-

The "Move For Life" event





J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248 Aruba, Dutch Caribbean troparuba.com

RBC Royal Bank plans third "Move for Life" fund raising campaign



During last week's press conference, Pierre Rafini (Area Vice President Business Banking, RBC Royal Bank), Rose-Ann Ruiz of Aruba Zumba Fitness and Lilian Prince Director of Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds, elaboratd on the third edition of their "Move for Life" event. The event is or-

ganized to create awareness for the care and prevention of cancer among children.

RBC organizes different activities in the Dutch Caribbean and Suriname to raise funds for local institutions fighting against cancer in children

All funds collected will go to Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds

will take place on Wednesday October 23rd from 6:30 to 8:30 m. at the Piedra Plat Entertainment Center. This year

the Zumba event will have as its theme, 'Glow in the Dark.' Elite will provide the light and sound effects. There will also be special performance by Kliber from Curacao and Janiro Eisden of Basic One. Koningin Wilhemina Fonds will also be there with their information

booth and to receive donations. This year RBC has invited all secondary schools to participate to win one of the two donations for their school. Rules for participation have been sent to all schools. This event is to help create awareness among our youth concerning cancer in children

To register, go to RBC Sasaki Branch from Monday to Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.. You can also register at the office of Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds. Registration cost Afls 15, which includes a Neon T-Shirt, glow props, refreshment and a Subway sandwich. There will also be different door prizes.

Special thanks goes to their sponsors who are helping to make the event possible. Elite Productions and Subway are especially generous sponsors for this important awareness event.

RBC invites the entire Aruban community to participate in this tremendous event and contribute to a good cause. Together we will move for life!

Today is Global Hand-washing Day



Definitive proof that everyday of the year is dedicated to something, often several somethings, we give you October Global Handwashing Day. Since the commencement of Global Handwashing Day in 2008, designated as the International Year of Sanitation by the UN General Assembly, Global Handwashing Day has been resounding and fortifying the call for enhanced hygiene practices worldwide. It is directed at expanding cognizance and comprehension about the imperative of hand washing with cleanser, as a viable and reasonable approach to avert disease. An international expert on pandemics, while presenting at a Tourism Security Conference on Aruba a few years ago regarding preventing epidemic incidents, had a single and startling piece of advice for attendees: "Wash your hands."

Global Handwashing Day as designated by the U.N. 1s an opportunity to drive home this point and campaigns are aimed at schoolchildren. The Aruba Health Department (DESPA) also marks this day and has some important information about the benefits of frequently washing hands with

The hands are the principal vehicle to transmit microbes that causes diseases. Washing the hands after using the toilet, sneezing or coughing, changing diapers, before cooking a meal, and before and after treating a wound can reduce diarrhea cases by 50% and respiratory infections by 25%. Washing hands with soap can also help prevent skin and eye infections, getting infested with worms and infected with

A sick person has a low immunology system and so defenses are low. When the caretaker washes their hands with soap they help prevent patient from getting infected with other infections or ail-

Bear in mind, however, that washing the hands without soap is less effective. Using only water is not enough to get rid of microbes. Soap wipes out most of the microbes; hands stay cleaner for a longer period and they smell nice, too!

Recommended steps for washing hands:

- Soak the hands well with water
- 2. Daub with soap

Continued on page 5





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Second JR. Ranger Camp at National Park, a whopping success!





Some 50 children participated in a Jr. Ranger Camp which took place from October 7th to9th. Indra Zaandam of the National Park was very pleased with the participation of the children.

The Jr.Park Rangers of last year did marvelously as leaders and guides for this new group. The children enjoyed the diversity of activities, explored our flora and fauna as well as culture, history and geology. The experience was educational, interactive and lots of fun for the children.

On Wednesday evening they had the closing session of the camping. The dynamic team of this Project together with the children prepared a special evening for all the parents of the children. Parents had an opportunity to see what the children had done during the camping days. This was done by way of film and slides.

This Project was a whopping success. The support of CEDE Aruba, the main sponsor made it all happen. They are truly grateful for the support of CEDE Aruba. The Park Rangers also lend their assistance in making the camping such a success.

The Park now intends to explore the possibility for continuing with such a program and eventually even expanding the services of the Park to our children. The Park has demonstrated the potential for camping.









Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday 6:00 - 11:00 p.m

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944

A very pleasant surprise at the new West Deck eatery at Governor's Beach

Always keeping an eye towards Aruba's new dining options, a taste-testing team from THE MORNING NEWS was utterly charmed by a luncheon interlude at the spanking new West Deck eatery, on the shoreline in downtown Oranjestad.

The al fresco restaurant has been installed on the newly built deck overlooking Governor's Beach, the small spit of beach front bordering the east side of the lagoon that splits the down, next to Wilhelmina Park. Looking south over the water, it appears to be on the western side of the lagoon, perhaps that accounts for the name?

We were not surprised, after being delighted with a Sunday lunch at this charming to spot, to learn that it is the baby of master restaurateurs Robby and Anabella Peterson, who opened the very successful

Pinchos at Surfside
Marina, ten years
ago. Sporting a
simple setting
with some
colorful flair,
brightly cushioned couches
bordering the
restaurants
wooden railing
offer a cozy setting
for some sunset
cuddling and a ro-

mantic dinner, though they may prove a tad too sunny during lunch hours. However, we found a com-

Whole red snapper

However, we found a comfortable table in the shade and were duly impressed with a diverse menu, heavily leaning towards a diversity of fresh fish and seafood, but offering some very inventive and intriguing choices for landlubbers, as well.

Two of us immediately opted for the whole snapper, as this delicacy is becoming increasingly more difficult to



A bountiful basket of Bahamian style conch fritters

find on Aruban restaurant menus. We also elected to sample the Bahamian Style Conch Fritters, which earned a unanimous vote of excellence. They were heavy on the conch, light on the batter, and this favorite mollusk, which can often be quite tough when not prepared correctly, was perfectly tender.

The whole fish came with a very tasty, mild Creole Sauce, though the eager-to-please staff were only too happy to

Pica with which to spice things up a bit.

who come to imbibe some tropical cocktails or fine wines while snacking and enjoying the sunset, they have set up the menu to enjoy such things

on a salad base
to enjoy such things
they as the Bahamian fritters or coconut shrimp by the pound or
dozen, so a group can share.
Exotic side dishes we sampled
included sweet potato french
fries and Caribbean Rice, made
to enjoy such things
conut shrimp by the pound or
dozen, so a group can share.
Exotic side dishes we sampled
included sweet potato french
fries and Caribbean Rice, made
with coconut milk, which all
earned double thumbs up

Best of all, the prices are very moderate, particularly considering the location and gournet presentation. This was a very successful exploration of a new island eatery, which we found delightful on all counts. Highly recommended.

Aruba welcomes Filipino dignitaries



Over the week of October 7 through 12, the Honorary Consul of the Philippines to Aruba, Ami Henriquez-Mendes, was proud to host three important Filipino dignitaries stationed in the U.S., visiting the island for the first time. First Consul Arlene Magno, Labor Attache Luzviminda Pedella and Welfare Officer Saul De Vries spent a week meeting with important island officials and the large expatriate Filipino community living on Aruba

They visited with both Prime Minister Mike Eman and Governor Fredis Refunjol early in the week. The latter days were spent processing passport applications for the local immigrant community, which included Filipinos living on other Dutch Caribbean islands during this major outreach program. They were also presented with programs available to provide for their families back home.

One such program, the Aruba is home to around 20 Overseas Workers Welfare As- of the imported population.

sociation, or OWWA, will, for a nominal fee, provide health benefits and college tuition for offspring still living in the Philippines, while parents earn a living on Aruba.

Exporting labor is one of that nation's greatest assets, and Aruba boasts a community of nearly 5,000 Filipinos, a number of which have applied for and received Dutch citizenship. They are found mostly working in the service industries as well as hospital care. The visiting diplomats met with the general managers of both the Hyatt and Marriott resorts, which employ the majority of the imported labor.

The Philippines maintain and embassy in Venezuela, which serviced the needs of immigrant workers on Aruba, but this closed on June 30, 2012. The diplomats explained there are nearly 20,000 Filipinos working on islands throughout the Caribbean, but Aruba is home to around 20% of the imported population.



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Global Hand-washing Day

Continued from page 3

- While washing, do not forget to scrub all areas: backs of the hands, not only the palms, between the fingers and especially under the nails for at least 20 seconds
- 4. Rinse the hand to get rid of all the soap.
- Dry the hands and fingers good with a clean towel or by shaking in the air.

Any soap for washing hands, clothes or dishes is acceptable. The lack of soap in public toilets at school or working place can cause the spreading of microbes. It is important to learn to wash the hands with soap at a very early age Children who learn to wash their hands with soap after going to the toilet, playing, touching or cuddling animals, after sneezing, coughing or blowing their nose, shaking hands, before eating, etc stay with that habit through adult-



hood.

It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to teach children this good habit. Washing hands with soap helps protect the health of your loved ones for 24 hours a day, seven days a week

Each year, over 200 million people are involved in celebrations in over 100 countries around the world. Global Handwashing is endorsed by a wide array of governments, international institutions, civil society organizations, NGOs, private companies, and individuals.

Is Aruba really in the forefront...

Continued from page 2

"I purchased an electric car when The Bahamas exercised an 85% duty on all cars with no distinction. When I pointed out to them that this is a vehicle with zero gas emissions and the situation, I asked legislators, "What are you going to do?" It took them about two years to change the customs duties to allow a special exemption for electric cars, so it never took off. Here you have a country that had already moved forward, where they are not talking about an electric car, but a transportation network of electric buses. That is innovative."

"The ability in all of these challenges, to make these little steps and move forward, and help the little man on the street, is evident when you go to the technology center, and you see them training people in how to install a new solar panel, it's there. The opportunity to convert your housing infrastructure to being eco-friendly, is there in a plan. Where they are going to get the technical and finance resources, they are pursuing vigorously."

"I am tremendously impressed and pleased with what I see happening here in Aruba. On a comparative scale, when you ask me "Is Aruba further ahead of the curve than most of the other Caribbean countries I continue to deal with? The broad answer is "Yes." It is remarkable because it is such a little country with limited resources, but it has young, vibrant people, who have, to be frank, the cojones to believe

they can make a difference. That is always the first step. That means I am not depressed about Aruba, I am very, very impressed. I am also optimistic as to where you are going. Will they achieve 2020? A full decolonization from fossil fuel generation?"

Mr. Butler pointed that the introduction of natural gas, which even though immensely cleaner than diesel, is still a fossil fuel, and must be considered in the equation. He had some observances regarding improving the connection between the practices of the general populace and the government's stated policies. These will be detailed in a follow up article in tomorrow's edition of THE MORNING NEWS.



International News

Belgium traps Somali pirate chief with lure of stardom

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Belgium has arrested a notorious Somali pirate chief after luring him to Brussels on promises of shooting a documentary movie about his life on the high seas, prosecutors said Monday.

Federal prosecutor Johan Delmulle said Mohamed Abdi Hassan, better known as "Afweyne" or "Big Mouth", was being held in the Belgian city of Bruges after being detained at Brussels airport Saturday when he stepped off a flight from Nairobi.

Afweyne and his powerful accomplice, Mohamed Aden "Triceey", the former governor of Somalia's self-proclaimed Himan and Heeb statelet, were facing charges of kidnapping, piracy and organised crime, the prosecutor said in a statement he read to the press in French and Dutch.

The charges followed the



2009 capture of a Belgian ship, the Pompei, seized and held by pirates off the Somali coast for more than 70 days.

Afweyne announced in Mogadishu in January that he was quitting piracy after a highly profitable eight-year career. He said he was working to persuade other pirates to do the same.

A UN report has described him as one of the lynch-pins in the piracy business which made a fortune attacking dozens of merchant vessels between 2008 and 2013.

The Pompei was captured by dozens of pirates 700 miles off Somalia in the Indian Ocean, and the nine crewmembers, including two Belgian officers and the Dutch captain held "in inhumane circumstances" until a ransom was dropped by parachute.

An inquiry had since led to the arrest and conviction of two of the pirates, one sentenced to 10 years in jail in 2011, the other to nine years behind bars in 2012.

But the Belgian prosecutor's office had not let up its determination to bring to book the people "behind this act of piracy, who ordered, financed and organised logistical backup," Delmulle said.

arrest marks a significant step in the fight against piracy.

Bomb kills 27 in Syria as kidnapped aid workers freed

DAMASCUS-(AFP) - A car bomb killed dozens of people in rebel-held northwestern Syria on Monday as suspected jihadists freed four out of seven aid workers kidnapped in the increasingly volatile region.

The bombing and abductions came as the United States stepped up its calls for a peace conference between President Bashar al-Assad's regime and its Western-backed opponents, who are divided over the initiative.

The United Nations said, meanwhile, that "the race is on" to make sure Syria keeps to deadlines to destroy its chemical weapons arsenal under the terms of a UN Security Council resolution.

The blast in the town of Darkush killed at least 27 people, including three children and a woman, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said, adding the death toll could rise because many of the wounded were in serious condition.

Activists said the blast targeted the market area of the town, which is a few kilometres (miles) from the border with Turkey, on the Orontes river.

Four of the kidnapped aid

workers were meanwhile freed, International Committee of the Red Cross spokesman Ewan Watson said, adding the organisation was awaiting further information about the others.

The Observatory said an Al-Qaeda-linked rebel group -- the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) -- kidnaped the six Red Cross staff and a volunteer from the Syrian Red Crescent.

The ICRC has not commented on the nationality of those abducted, though it has said most of the group were Syrian. There has been no claim of responsibility.

Rebels control large swathes of Idlib, and kidnappings have become increasingly common in rebel-held parts of Syria, targeting both journalists and aid workers.

The Red Cross, one of the few organisations able to deliver aid nationwide, said the team had travelled to Idlib on October 10 to assess the situation at health facilities and deliver aid.

On the political front, the United States said there was an "urgent" need to set a date for so-called Geneva 2 peace talks, despite a leading opposition group's rejection of the process.

French First Lady meets S.African gay rights groups

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) France's First Lady Valerie Trierweiler met with South
African gay rights groups on
Monday to assess the grim reality for homosexuals in the
country despite some of the
world's best legal protection.

As French President Francois Hollande signed business deals on the first of a two-day state visit, his partner held talks with a lesbian couple after having lunch with campaign groups, according to activist Anthony Manion who attended the group talks.

She wanted "to talk about the daily lives and experience of gay or bisexual women in South Africa who are married or in a relationship," said Manion, director of rights group Gala (Gay and Lesbian Memory in Action).

The meeting was closed to the media and the couple was not identified.

Activists said they want Trierweiler, who spearheaded France's legalisation of samesex marriage in May, to put pressure on South African authorities to better implement liberal laws that do not reflect an often conservative society.

In May last year traditional leaders asked parliament to delete a clause in the constitution that guarantees equal rights to homosexuals.

"We need those international pressures in our country," said Phindi Malaza from the Forum for the Empowerment of Women, referring to lesbians, gays, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (LGBTI).

"As LGBTI people living in a township we are really not enjoying those rights and privileges in the constitution," she told AFP, referring to low income areas in South Africa where the black majority live.

An Amnesty International report this year pointed to at least seven murders in what appeared to be homophobic attacks between June and November last year. Five of the victims were lesbians.

Media and rights groups also often decry the practice of "corrective rape" of lesbian women to turn them "straight", though no official figures are available.





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It's official- Holiday season is here with the opening of Flora Market Christmas World

-- Summery weather is no deterrent to a full invasion of the Christmas spirit at Flora Market, which officially opened their annual holiday section this past weekend. The enormous garden and home decor store has a huge selection of themed rooms dedicated to ideas for immersing homes in the spirit of the season.

Each room of their Christmas World is dedicated to a different color scheme, from trendy neon pinks with fishy themes, to traditional gold, red and green, centered around a medieval castle and village. Not only did their huge selection inspire families that made a day of it this past Saturday and Sunday, but proved a delightful event, much more than



simply a shopping trip.

Angels and Santa came to visit, cupcakes, sweet treats, and rum punch were offered for the festive day at the store. Shoppers marveled at the winter white wonderland where they were immersed in a fairy fantasy, surrounded by fluffy, frosty foxes, unicorns and polar bears that just begged to be adopted.

Alex is in charge of the holiday environment and explained that this year's most fashionable holiday decor is



blue and white. Flora Market offers several stylish ideas for how to bring this stunning motif to you home,

Whether one's taste runs to the traditional or innovative in holiday decor, the latest and

the candy shop

greatest in decorating ideas are sure to be found at Flora Market's massive Christmas World

continues on page 9





Holiday season is here with Flora Market Christmas World continued from page 8





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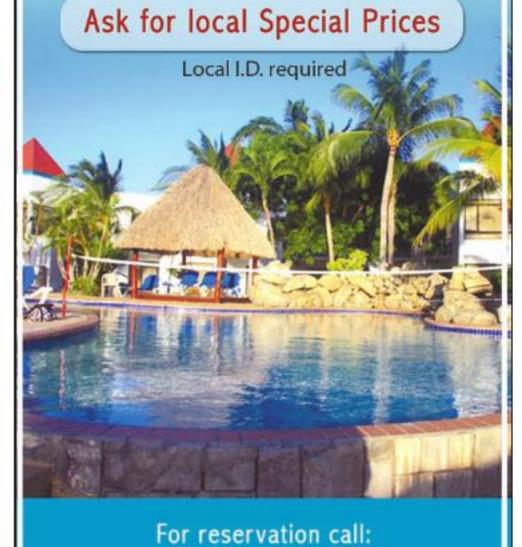
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- Doe's dear
- Bell and Kettle 35. Firefly's
- Kitty doc
- 11. "Little
- Mermaid" prince
- 12. "___ cost you!"
- Greek letter
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- Rich pastry
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- 43. Caesar _ 45. "Auntie ___
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- letters
- 48. Batch
- 49. Pack animal
- 50. Vietnamese New Year
- 52. "___ had enough!"
- 53. Drench 54. Small insect



Tuesday, October 15, 2013

DRUG STORES OPEN AFTER HOURS

Okt. 12 - Okt. 19

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contain the numbers 1 through 9

FINANCE

Senate leader confident of US debt ceiling deal 'this week'

WASHINGTON (AFP) Democratic and Republican Senate leaders emerged from ongoing negotiations yesterday expressing confidence and optimism that they will strike a deal to avert a potentially disastrous debt default.

"I'm very optimistic we will reach an agreement that's reasonable in nature this week to reopen the government, pay the nation's bills and begin long-term negotiations to put our country on sound fiscal footing," Majority Leader Harry Reid said on the Senate floor after meeting with the chamber's top Republican Mitch McConnell.

Lawmakers have just three days to work out an agreement before the US Treasury exhausts its borrowing authority

on October 17, which could lead the United States to start defaulting on its obligations for the first time in history.

For weeks, the two sides have been deadlocked over how to fund government and how to raise the US debt ceiling while reining in spending.

But there were increasing signs that a deal could be imminent, including President Barack Obama calling a 1900 GMT meeting at the White House yesterday with congressional leaders including Reid, McConnell, House Speaker John Boehner and House Democratic minority leader Nancy Pelosi.

In recent days, McConnell said, he and Reid have had "some very constructive exchanges of views about how to move forward."

"Those discussions continue and I share his optimism that we are going to get a result that will be acceptable to both sides," McConnell added.

Any deal that passes the Democratic-led Senate would also need to be approved by the Republican-controlled House of Representatives before it reaches President Barack Obama's desk.



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EU finance ministers meet amid US debt default warnings

FORT WORTH -- A sheet of rare and sought after star notes is seen after the phase of production where the new 100 USD bills are applied with a serial number, a US Federal Reserve seal, are cut and stacked at the US Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth, Texas. The facility is currently the sole producer of the new 100 USD bill. The bill went into circulation on October 8 and includes new security fea-

tures such as a purple band with moving images, ink

that changes color with the angle as well as a new more

LUXEMBOURG (AFP) - EU finance ministers were warned yesterday of the "dramatic consequences" a US debt default could have as they discussed how to prevent failing banks from ever again collapsing their own economies.

With US President Barack Obama holding yet another round of talks to head off a first US debt default on Thursday, EU Economic Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn said it was vital a solution was

"Otherwise it could have ing potentially dramatic consequences on the world economy and on the still nascent recovery in Europe," Rehn

Jeroen Dijsselbloem, who heads the Eurogroup of the 17 eurozone nations, said finance ministers had reviewed positively the situation in Spain, whose overextended banks had to be bailed out, and in rescued Ireland.

"In both, the economic and budgetary outlook has improved," Dijsselbloem said, with Dublin and Madrid set to complete their programs by year-end.

Whether they would need "accompanying measures" to get them through the transition would be discussed in November, he added.

Dijsselbloem said that in Portugal, whose bailout program ends next year, "reforms are beginning to bear fruit but a number of longstanding challenges remain.

"The pace of reform and fiscal consolidation must be maintained," he said

There has been much speculation that twice bailed-out Greece could need more help and Dijsselbloem was cautious in reply to questions at the close of the Eurogroup meet-

Greece should have a primary fiscal surplus by the end of this year -- that is, a budget surplus excluding interest payments -- and the country was making progress, he said

However, there was "no doubt the reform process has a long way to go," he added, saying more would be known once the troika of Greece's creditors -- the EU, European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund -- report back on their latest review mission.

With that likely in December, Dijsselbloem insisted it was too early to talk about specifics but stressed there could be no prospect of another cut in debt for Athens.

Dijsselbloem said eurozone ministers also discussed the Single Supervisory Mechanism, a key step towards the bloc's planned banking union.

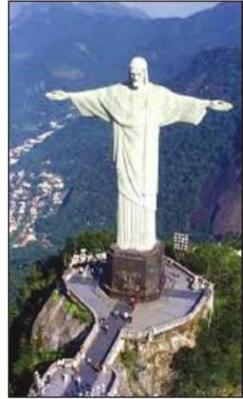
"The SSM is expected to come into force in coming weeks," Dijsselbloem said, apparently after Britain's concerns over how it would work were satisfied.

Non-euro Britain is home to the European Banking Authority, which is supposed to draft the rules for all banks in the bloc, while the SSM is to be run by the ECB.





Brazil: Soaring airfares for fans traveling to World Cup



RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) -Football fans hoping to attend the 2014 World Cup will have to get busy saving now, amid reports of sharp fare hikes next year in Brazil.

Last June's Confederations
Cup dress rehearsal saw
marked increases in airfares
and hotel prices, but increases
are expected to be even worse
next year, when supporters of
32 teams descend upon Brazil,
pushing demand through the
roof.

"A Sao Paulo-Rio flight already costs almost the same as going to New York," wrote an incredulous Folha de Sao Paulo daily newspaper on Monday.

The paper indicated that June 12 return flights from Rio to Sao Paulo, which will stage the opening match that day, will cost 2,393 reais (\$1,094/807 euros).

"That's more expensive than going to Curacao in the Caribbean (1,900 reais) or Buenos Aires (900 reais) and a little less than the price of a return to New York or Paris," said Folha.

It is also some 10 times the normal fare of around 250 reas.

Folha added it had uncovered some flights costing 2,923 reass -- a 1,311 percent hike on a normal return.

Airlines responded by saying many flights had already been booked for the period, costing less, adding that lastminute bookings would naturally be higher owing to demand and availability.

TAM airlines indicated the far higher than usual demand given that some 600,000 tourists will be criss-crossing Brazil for a month -- means added logistical costs for carners

The airline cited additional "operational complexity" and the need to draw up "specific planning" to deal with the increased passenger demand.

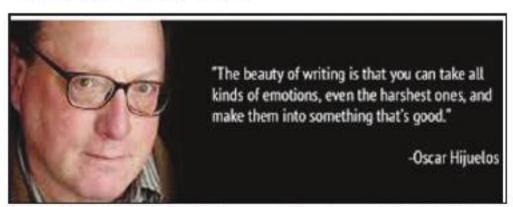
Competitor Gol said many of its tickets for the period had already been sold and that high demand for the few remaining tickets would likely lead to higher prices.

In Brazil, a 2001 law allows carriers to set prices without government regulation.

Even so, Folha quoted the country's civil aviation authority as urging the companies to pursue a policy of "regular prices" even during the World Cup.

Brazil is said to be mulling plans to reassign planes from less-used air routes during the tournament.

US prize-winning 'Mambo Kings' author dead at 62



NEW YORK CITY (AFP) Oscar Hijuelos, the CubanAmerican author best known
for his Pulitzer-prize winning
novel "The Mambo Kings
Play Songs of Love," has died
in New York, his agent said.
He was 62.

Hijuelos collapsed on a tennis court in Manhattan on Saturday and never regained consciousness, his widow Lori Marie Carlson told the New York Times

Hijuelos' literary agent Jennifer Lyons confirmed the report to AFP.

Hijuelos was born in New York on August 24, 1951, of Cuban immigrant parents. He was the first Hispanic to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1990 for "The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love," his second novel.

The book, translated into 25 languages, was made into a 1992 Hollywood movie --"The Mambo Kings" -- starring Antonio Banderas and Armand Assante.

It is about the adventures of Cuban brothers Cesar and Nestor Castillo, who move to the United States in the 1950s at the height of the Mambo craze.

Hijuelos' other books often focused on the lives of Cuban-Americans. "When I was a little kid, I went to Cuba. I got very sick, I spent a year (in the hospital) away from my family and the culture... My mother said I went in speaking Spanish and came out speaking English," Hijuelos said in a 2011 interview with the PBS News Hour as he was promoting his memoir, "Thoughts Without Cigarettes."

Facebook buys Israeli startup Onavo

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Facebook will acquire an Israeli start-up called Onavo, the two firms said Monday, in a deal reportedly worth up to \$200 million.

"Facebook has agreed to acquire our company," Onavo cofounders Guy Rosen and Roi Tiger wrote on their blog, without saying how much the social networking giant had agreed to pay.

Local media reports priced the acquisition at \$100-200 million (73 million to 147 million euros) and said it would see Facebook open its first research and development centre in Israel.

Founded in 2010, Onavo develops applications to help users better manage mobile data costs, particularly when they travel abroad.

It also has a corporate arm, which provides businesses with market intelligence about users' application usage.

Facebook confirmed the deal, saying Onavo would be an "exciting addition" to the social network

"We expect Onavo's data compression technology to play a central role in our mission to connect more people to the Internet, and their analytic tools will help us provide better, more efficient mobile products."

The website of Israel's Haaretz daily said 30 of Onavo's 40 employees are based in Israel, while the rest work from Palo Alto, California

Onavo's "Tel Aviv office will remain open for business and will become Facebook's new Israeli office," the blog entry read.

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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



Delicious Breakfast

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and

dertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course,

the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$3.99, or All-you can-eat pancakes for \$6.99! A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast & home fries - for only \$9.99! Best of all - unlimited coffee or tea - that is, refillable and never ending is only \$.79! Breakfast is served from 8am until noon. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on, after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie, so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-

sundry to their proud un- eggs any style, (omelets with 3 most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato ... whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra



5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef

demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English waywith vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open from 8am to 10pm-ish Sunday - Thursday. For those late night diners, 5 Burgers is open until 3AM-ish on Friday & Saturdays! Delivery is available to most Hotels and most beaches! Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904 However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality, it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.



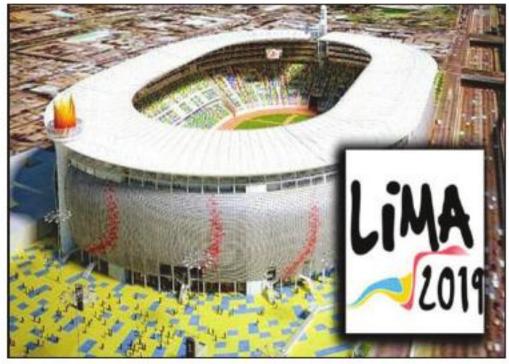
SPORTS

Pan American 2019 Games to be played in Lima, Peru

--With 31 votes the city of Lima, Peru won the right to organize the 2019 Pan American Games. Lima, Peru was chosen over Cuidad Bolivar, La Punta and Santiago in a voting which took place in the general assembly at ODEPA in Toronto, Canada. Remarkable is that Peru has never before been a host country to Pan American Games.

An Olympic Villa will be constructed to accommodate 9000 athletes who will participate in the 2019 games. The Olympic Villa will be housed in El Callao.

Both the opening ceremony and the closing event will be



held in the national stadium of Lima which has a seating capacity of 45.000. All sports programs in the 2020 games will be part of the Pan America Games.

Divi Village is victor over Marriott Hotel and Caribbean Drip football match

-During the past weekend the football games on the field of Centro di Bario Barzi with employees of landscaping departments of Divi Village, Marriott Hotel and Caribbean Drip took place with much excitement.

It appears, the Divi Village players came better prepared. Three of the ladies of their department landed goals against Marriott Hotel and Caribbean Drip. The male players seemed helpless against Maria, Meloni and Lillian of the Divi Village. These were the three ladies who seemed to make the men's



MLB playoff schedule

American League

Boston Red Sox v Detroit

Sat. Oct. 12 - Detroit at Boston

Detroit 1, Boston 0 -(Detroit leads 1-0)

Sun. Oct. 13 - Detroit at Boston

Detroit 5, Boston 6 -(Series tied 1-1)

Tue. Oct. 15 - Boston at Detroit

Wed. Oct. 16 - Boston at Detroit

Thu. Oct. 17 - Boston at Detroit

Sat. Oct. 19 - Detroit at Boston

Sun. Oct. 20 - Detroit at Boston

National League

Los Angeles Dodgers v St. Louis Cardinals

Fri. Oct. 11 - Los Angeles at St. Louis
St.Louis 3, Los Angeles 2 (St.L leads 1.0)
Sat. Oct. 12 - Los Angeles at St. Louis
St. Louis 1, Los Angeles 0- (ST.L leads 2-0)
Mon. Oct. 14 - St. Louis at Los Angeles
Tue. Oct. 15 - St. Louis at Los Angeles
Wed. Oct. 16 - St. Louis at Los Angeles
Fri. Oct. 18 - Los Angeles at St. Louis
Sat. Oct. 19 - Los Angeles at St. Louis

heads spin and who beat the Marriott Hotel with their scores.

Here are the results of the games played:

1. Caribbean Drip vs Divi Village 7-3

2. Divi Village vs Marriott Hotel 5-5 3 Carbbean Drin vs Marriott

3 Carbbean Drip vs Marriott Hotel 4-8

4. Caribben Drip vs Divi Village 2-6

5. Marriott Hotel vs Divi Village 2-12

6 Marriott Hoel vs Caribbean Dripp 17-18

On Monday evening the games will continue at the Centro Di Bario Brazil

The hope is that the Marriott Hotel will come better prepared in view of their loss to the ladies of the Caribben Drip and Divi Village. The teams are made up of men and women, with each team having a minimum of two ladies playing.







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Football: Revived Mexico seek to close campaign with win



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Having resuscitated their flagging World Cup bid, Mexico head into their final qualifier at Costa Rica today determined to make the most of their chance.

"Our goal is to go through and we will seek to win against Costa Rica," said manager Victor Manuel Vucetich, who was tasked with salvaging Mexico's disastrous campaign and saw his side beat Panama 2-1 on Friday in his first match at the helm.

Raul Alonso Jimenez was the unlikely star for Mexico, his spectacular bicycle kick five minutes from full-time giving the El Tri their first home win in the six-nation final qualifying group in North and Central America and the Caribbean.

The victory moved Mexico into fourth place, three points behind Honduras -- who need only to draw at last-placed Jamaica to punch their ticket to Brazil. That means Mexico are almost certainly looking at a playoff against Oceania champions New Zealand for a World Cup berth, although they still nurse slim hopes of sneaking past Honduras for third place and a direct entry to the finals.

While Mexico's players are well aware they can't afford a let down, captain Rafael Marquez acknowledged that Friday's victory was a major morale boost for the struggling side who were facing the real possibility of missing the World Cup for the first time since 1990.

f Mexico can't maintain their momentum, Panama will try to pounce.

They lie fifth in the table, trailing Mexico by three points, and host group winners the United States.

Panama's hopes of seizing fourth place and a playoff chance received a small boost when US manager Jurgen Klinsmann said at the weekend that Landon Donovan would miss the match because of a sore ankle.



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NFL: Brady's Patriots save the best for last

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Tom Brady's 17-yard touchdown strike to Kenbrell Thompkins with five seconds left on the clock lifted the New England Patriots to a 30-27 win over the previously unbeaten New Orleans Saints.

Brady, who had a streak of 52 straight games with a touchdown pass snapped last week, engineered the gamewinning drive with 73 seconds left in Sunday's contest in front of a crowd of 68,756 at Gillette Stadium.

He moved the ball from his 30 to the Saints' 26 yard line with three completions.

Facing fourth down and four, Brady hit Austin Collie for a nine-yard gain that kept the game-winning drive going.

After spiking the ball to stop

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the clock, Brady hit Thompkins in the back left corner of the end zone for the win.

"Our defense made a great stop," Brady said. "The guys made a bunch of plays there at the end. Guys made big-time catches."

Brady totalled 269 yards on 25-of-43 passing for New England, who improved to 5-1.

Bill Belichick collected his 210th win as a head coach, passing Chuck Noll for sole possession of fifth place on the NFL's all-time list

Jamaal Charles had two short touchdown runs and the Kansas City Chiefs sacked quarterback Terrelle Pryor 10 times in a 24-7 win over the Oakland Raiders.

Charles rushed for 78 yards and Alex Smith passed for 128 yards for the Chiefs, who are off to their best start in 10 years.

The Chiefs' defense was also terrific Sunday, intercepting Pryor three times.

All three Pryor picks led to Kansas City points, including Husain Abdullah's 44-yard return for a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Pryor even faced a thirdand-48 play at one point in the fourth quarter.

The Chiefs improved to 6-0 and snapped a six-game home losing streak to the Raiders This is the first time since 2003 they have won the first six games of the season.

In other games, Knowshon Moreno rushed for three second-half touchdowns and the Denver Broncos remained unbeaten with a 35-19 win over the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Quarterback Peyton Manning added two more touchdown passes to his season total and finished with 295 yards on a 28-of-42 passing to help Denver to its 17th consecutive regular-season victory.

"Knowshon was huge,"
Manning said of Moreno. "His
red-zone running was huge. I
thought the running game got
going a little bit better in the
second half."

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, the Pittsburgh Steelers finally broke into the win column with a 19-6 victory over the New York Jets.

Detroit quarterback
Matthew Stafford had four
touchdown passes, three of
them to Joseph Fauria, as the
Lions used a strong second
half for a 31-17 win over the
Cleveland Browns.

In other games it was Carolina 35 Minnesota 10, St. Louis 38 Houston 13, Green Bay 19 Baltimore 17, Philadelphia 31 Tampa Bay 20, Cincinnati 27 Buffalo 24, Seattle 20 Tennessee 13, San Francisco 32 Arizona 20, and Dallas 31 Washington 16.

Football: Messi returns to Barcelona training

MADRID (AFP) - World Player of the Year Lionel Messi returned to full training with his Barcelona teammates on Monday for the first time since suffering a thigh injury two weeks ago.

The Argentine was forced off with the problem in the 2-0 win over Almeria on September 29 after scoring his 11th goal in just nine appearances this season to give his side the lead in that game.

Messi stayed in Barcelona to continue his recuperation process rather than travelling to represent his country with Alejandro Sabella's men set to take on Copa America champions Uruguay in Montevideo on Tuesday.

And it is expected that the

26-year-old will be fit enough to start Barca's match away to Osasuna on Saturday ahead of a big week for the Spanish champions as they travel to AC Milan in the Champions League before hosting Real Madrid on October 26.

There was further good news on the injury front for Barca boss Gerardo Martino as centre-backs Carles Puyol and Javier Mascherano also took part in the training session.

Puyol hasn't played since undergoing knee surgery in March, but is expected to be given the green light to return to action later this week.

And Mascherano should also feature against Osasuna after recovering from a hamstring problem.

Vettel wins Japan thriller



SUZUKA (AFP) - Sebastian Vettel is used to dominating from the front but a brilliant, come-from-behind victory in Japan silenced the critics and proved it's not all about his Red Bull car. The young German has attracted cynicism and even boos this year but if there was any doubt that he belongs among Formula One's greats, he obliterated it at Suzuka. Vettel was accused of sending fans to sleep with his consecutive wins at Belgium, Italy, Singapore and South Korea, but he had to fight for victory in Japan. The performance, described as "quite supreme" by his team principal Christian Horner, leaves the 26-year-old all but assured of a fourth successive world title. Vettel has now won five races in a row, the longest winning streak since Schumacher in 2004, and four of the last five grands prix in Japan.

Judo: Olympic medallist Van Snick fails drug test



BRUSSELS (AFP) - Belgian judoka Charline Van Snick, a bronze medal winner from the 2012 London Olympics, revealed on Monday that she returned a positive test for cocaine during the world championships in Rio last August where she also won bronze.

"I received a letter informing me that a banned substance had been found in one of my urine samples, metabolites of cocaine," Van Snick told Belgian public radio station RTBF.

"The news stunned me, because I am very careful with this, and I really have a perfect lifestyle. I have never taken any substance that can improve my performance. Not intentionally anyway," she said.

The 23-year-old Belgian, who faces a two-year suspension and the loss of her medal in the lightweight category from Rio is now awaiting the results of the B sample.

"With my lawyer, we are building a case to prove my innocence. I've always tried to be as professional as possible and meet all my doping obligations and I don't understand how such a thing could have happened," she added.

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MLB: Red Sox shock Tigers to level playoff series

BOSTON (AFP) - David Ortiz clubbed a grand slam in the eighth and Jarrod Saltalamacchia belted the game-winning run in the ninth as Boston rallied to stun Detroit 6-5 in game two of the ALCS.

Ortiz's two-out, game-tying grand slam in the bottom of the eighth inning Sunday brought the Red Sox to life after the Tigers had seized a seemingly comfortable 5-1 lead.

"We never give up," Ortiz said. "You saw that through the whole season. We found a way to get back and win the ball game." Saltalamacchia's walkoff single in front of a crowd of 38,029 at Fenway Park clinched the victory for the Red Sox, who evened the series at one game apiece.

"I have seen some crazy things in this ballpark," said Boston's Dustin Pedroia "That was a burst of emotion. He (Ortiz) just put a great swing on it. "They pitched us tough. We were just trying to pass it to the next guy and get a hit. Luckily it was David."

The American League series now shifts to Detroit for game three on Today. The winner of



this series will face either the Los Angeles Dodgers or the St. Louis Cardinals for the Major League Baseball championship.

Boston had just one hit in a 1-0 loss in game one and they appeared to headed to the same fate on Sunday.

Scherzer fanned 13 batters and allowed just two hits in seven innings.

But designated hitter Ortiz greeted Detroit's closing pitcher Joaquin Benoit with a grand slam on the first pitch thrown to him to tie the game 5-5.

Saltalamacchia than slapped a sharp grounder past a drawnin Jose Iglesias at shortstop to send the Red Sox to victory.

Saltalamacchia is chased by Pedroia and Napoli after driving in the winning run last night.